

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

An embodiment of the mechanism may also direct the client's side of a conversation, so that the client and the service may carry out an entire conversation without either the client or the service developer having to implement any explicit ~~explicitly~~ conversation control mechanisms.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to Figure 2, ~~following step 200 of Figure 1,~~ if the client wishes to be directed by the conversation controller, step 220, and there are valid input document types for the new state, step 230, the conversation controller may look up outbound document types in a dispatch table of the client, and invoke appropriate client methods that may produce new input documents that are valid in the new state, step 240.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

These functions may be satisfied, for example, by populating two hash tables each time when the conversation controller reads a new conversation specification expressed, for example, in choreography description language ("CDL"). One table may map from interaction identifiers to valid input document types and another table may map from source interaction identifier and transition document types to target interaction identifiers. The conversation controller may use the first table to look up the valid input document types for a given interaction, and use the second table to determine when a conversation has progressed from one interaction state to another, given the document type of an output document and a source interaction identifier.

Appl. No. 09/862,612
Amdt. dated February 4, 2005
Reply to Office action of November 17, 2004

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

As another example, in order to forward messages to appropriate service entry points, an endpoint binding specification, for example, a web service definition language ("WSDL") specification, may be created for each service so that the conversation controller may map input and output document types to service entry points. Each time the conversation controller reads a specification, the conversation controller may populate another two has tables: one that maps from input document types to service entry point and output document types, and one that maps from output document types to service entry point and input document types.